

Message Text

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11
ACTION LAB-04

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1431

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: USIRJC, ELAB

SUBJ: FUNDING PROBLEMS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF
DEVELOPMENT STATE OF MANPOWER COOPERATION

REFS: A) TEHRAN 4012 B) STATE 83996 C) STATE 103306

1. MEEING HELD IN MINISTRY OF LABOR ON MAY 5 TO RECEIVE
MINISTRY'S COMMENTS ON USDL DRAFT PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENTAL
STAGE, DISCUSS PROPOSED IRANIAN TEAMS' VISITS TO U.S.,
AND TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT ON ADVANCE FUNDING OF COSTS TO BE
INCURRED BY THE U.S.

2. MINLABL UNDERSECRETARY FOR MANPOWER, HASSAN FARZANEH,
SPEAKING FOR MINISTER MOINI, SAID THAT USDL DRAFT WAS
ENTIRELY ACCEPTABLE AND THAT MINISTRY WISHED MOVE AHEAD
FULL STEAM. UNFORTUNATELY, HE SAID, MINISTRY DOES NOT
PRESENTLY HAVE IN ITS ALLOCATED BUDGET FUNDS WHICH COULD
BE ADVANCED TO COVER ESTIMATED COSTS OF DEVELOPMENTAL
PHASE MUCH LESS FUNDS TO COVER IMPLEMENTATION PHASE.
FARZANEH SAID MINISTRY HAD FORWARDED COPY OF USDL
PROPOSAL TO MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE
AND IRANIAN CO-CHAIRMAN OF US-IRAN JOINT COMMISSION
HUSHANG ANSARY, BUT ANSARY HAD TO DATE APPARENTLY BEEN
UNABLE TO FOCUS ON THE MATTER. FARZANEH SUGGESTED
EMBASSY MIGHT HAVE WAYS OF GETTING ANSARY'S ATTENTION
IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE APPROVAL. IN ADDITION TO ANSARY'S
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CHECKOFF, PLANN ORGANIZATION APPROVAL WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE

OBTAINED FOR THE PROJECT BEFORE BUDGETARY ALLOCATION
COULD BE MADE.

3. FARZANEH ACCEPTED PRINCIPLE OF ADVANCE FUNDING
WITHOUT QUESTION AND WHEN IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT
CERTAIN ECONOMIES MIGHT RESULT IF INTERPRETERS NOT
REQUIRED FOR ALL IRANIAN TEAM MEMBERS RESPONDED THAT THE
AMOUNT WAS NOT ALL THAT IMPORTANT BUT RAPID APPROVAL
BY ANSARY AND THE PLAN ORGANIZATION WAS THE ESSENTIAL
POINT. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, EMBOFFS DID NOT SUGGEST
TRANCHE BY TRANCHE ALTERNATIVE (REFTEL C, PARA 3).
FARZANEH, IN FACT, SAID THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER FROM
HIS POINT OF VIEW TO DEPOSIT ONE LETTER OF CREDIT
COVERING WHOLE DEVELOPMENTAL PHASE.

4. MINISTRY OF LABOR, NOW APPRECIATES ADVANTAGES OF
SENDING TWO SEPARATE TEAMS TO U.S., BUT WISHES TO HOLD
TOTAL NUMBER TO 11, I.E., KAZEM ANSARY AS OVERALL
COORDINATOR AND TWO TEAMS UNDER HIM OF FIVE MEN EACH.
OF PERSONS TENTATIVELY CONSIDERED TO PARTICIPATION IN
TEAMS, ONLY ONE APPEARS HAVE NEED OF AN INTERPRETER.
KAZEM ANSARY, WHO ALSO PARTICIPATED IN REPORTED MEETING,
SUGGESTED MAXIMUM TWO WEEK VISIT PERIOD.

5. IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT BUDGETARY IMPASSE, IT IS CLEAR
THAT THE IRANIAN TEMAS, WHICH ARE ONLY NOW TAKING
TENTATIVE SHAPE, WILL NOT MEET THE GOI-PROPOSED MAY 15
DATE OF ARRIVAL IN THE U.S. FARZANEH OFFERED NO ALTERNATE
TARGET DATE FOR THEIR DISPATCH, AND COULD HAZARD NO GUESS
AS TO HOW LONG THE FUNDING PROBLEM WOULD TAKE TO BE
RESOLVED.

6. EMBASSY COMMENT: FARZANEH'S MOOD WAS THAT OF CALM
FRUSTRATION. HE (AND PRESUMABLY MINISTER MOINI) WANT TO
MOVE FORWARD ON A CRASH BASIS BUT ARE EVIDENTLY HAVING
PROBLEMS IN GETTING THEIR CLAIM ESTABLISHED TO THE
REQUISITE FUNDS. WITH REGARD TO FARZANEH'S SUGGESTION
THAT THE EMBASSY HELP THINGS ALONG BY INTERVENING WITH
HUSHANG ANSARY, WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF GETTING BETWEEN
VARIOUS GOI MINISTRIES ON SUCH MATTERS. WE SHOULD, OF
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COURSE, BE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO DECISIONS WHICH EMERGE
FROM THE HIGHER LEVELS OF THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT AS
THEY OCCUR.

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